



General Safety Guidelines

1 BALLOON AND FLIGHT OPERATION (ref. Rule 2.11)

- a) It is each pilot's responsibility to ensure that the balloon is properly rigged, in accordance with the manufacturer's flight manual in terms of good safety practices.
- b) Make sure that there are no sharp edges on the basket. Banners and competition numbers shall be attached with any sharp ends of the fasteners on the inside of the basket.
- c) The fuel system and fittings should be checked to ensure that they meet the manufacturer's requirements.
- d) Balloons must be operated within the manufacturer's certified limits.

2 GUIDELINES (ref. Rule 2.11)

- a) Check that all karabiners are properly attached and properly closed.
- b) Check for damaged or burnt envelope fabric and ensure it does not exceed the allowable damage requirements of the balloon manufacturer's manual.
- c) Check that there are no sharp objects outside the basket. (Examples on this are nylon straps (Zip Tie Straps) used to attach the basket banners, objects on map boards, etc.)
- d) Check that all burner and fuel system meet the manufacturer's specifications and are properly secured within the basket.
- e) Check that fuel hoses from the burners are correctly routed and cannot get trapped by persons or equipment on board.
- f) Check that there are no objects, which compromise safety, on top of tanks. Ensure that equipment on board is properly stowed.
- g) Check that nothing is attached to the fuel hoses.
- h) For mass ascensions, a quick release with maximum 5-meter line is mandatory.
- i) For any incident or accident, a report should be made, and a copy given to the Event Director.
- j) Pilots who have concerns about the airworthiness of any balloon should contact the Safety Officer, Les Purfield, or the Event Director, David Bareford (contact numbers on your identity badges).
- k) When approaching a goal or making a landing, a competitor shall make a controlled descent, based on his experience and the balloon performance. Ref. Rule 10.1.2 & 10.2.
- l) Please note the wording of Rules 10.1, 10.2 and 10.8. Violations will be penalized. Also see 10.2 Dangerous flying penalty in the Competition Operations Handbook.
- m) Please note the PZ for the main road, Ma-15, that passes close to CLP1.

3 RULES FOR REFUELING

- a) PROPANE/AIR mix CAN BE EXPLOSIVE! All possible sources of ignition must be kept away from the refueling area.



- b) No nylon clothing, banners, flags, etc., allowed in the refueling area.
- c) No loose strikers in the basket. They must be properly stored and disarmed.
- d) Only two persons per vehicle in the refueling area.
- e) Only experienced persons (pilot or crew chief) will be allowed to refuel.
- f) No consumption of alcoholic drinks in the refueling area.
- g) Persons who appear to be intoxicated will not be allowed access to refueling.
- h) No radios, cellular phones, pagers, camera or other electronic items in use.
- i) The vehicle lights and engine must be turned off during refueling.
- j) No loitering in the refueling area after refueling.
- k) Always wear gloves in the refueling area.
- l) Follow the instructions of the refueling personnel.
- m) ABSOLUTELY - NO SMOKING!

4 SAFETY ON GROUND

- a) **Complaints about stopping on road and causing traffic jams.**
See the separate briefing sheet on retrieve driving during the competition; please make sure your crew are aware of this. In addition, take care and keep people and vehicles on the roadside while you are waiting. Do not park your car in front of private houses or entrances anytime. Do not park cars on both sides of the road, keep enough space for others to pass by.
- b) **Marker drop**
Competitors have full responsibility when dropping markers or anything else from the balloon, including GPS loggers.
- c) **Landing**
When you make a final landing, you have to pay attention to the public. If you land in open fields, please respect the owner if nearby. If you use a public road, you **MUST** pay attention to others using the road. Do not interfere with others using the road.
- d) **Cell Phones**
Cell phones must be carried and switched on at all times except in the refueling area.
- e) **No Smoking in the launch site area**
- f) **Helium cylinders**
Helium cylinders and other heavy items transported in the car must be properly secured.
- g) **Quick-release tie-offs**
Quick-release tie-offs must be used for all balloons inflating in a common launch area and in individual launch areas. The rope of the inflation harness shall be tied to a secure point of the vehicle (normally not at a trailer).